



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/663,112	09/15/2003	Norman S. Martucci	0153.00102	1825

7590 11/02/2004

KOHN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC
Suite 410
30500 Northwestern Highway
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

EXAMINER

HOOK, JAMES F

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3754

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/663,112

Applicant(s)

MARTUCCI ET AL.

Examiner

James F. Hook

Art Unit

3754

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 5-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ash (953). The patent to Ash discloses the recited hose assembly comprising a compartmented tubular first layer 10-10'''' where the compartments provide means to carry fluids there through, and the layer is made of a polymeric fluorocarbon material, the unit is a single integrated unit, the use of PTFE is disclosed, couplings are provided at the ends, and a method of making such a hose is also given. The use of the hose within an automobile is considered merely intended use, and such would be capable of use anywhere, including in an ambulance which would meet the current claim language of use within an automobile.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 2, and 5-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martucci (527) in view of Barnett. The patent to Martucci discloses the recited

Art Unit: 3754

hose for use in an automobile comprising forming the first inner layer 12 of a fluorocarbon such as set forth in claim 5, including PTFE, it is considered an obvious choice of mechanical expedients to foam the inner layer or expand it where Martucci teaches such is possible for the outer layer, and such would merely be a reversal of parts to make the inner layer foamed, a jacket 14 is provided over the hose assembly and is made of polyamide such as those listed in claim 10, a braid layer 26 can be disposed between the first layer and the jacket, means such as carbon black can be added to strip 16 in the first layer to conduct electrical charges, a coupling means 18 can be provided, and the method of forming the tube is also provided. The patent to Martucci discloses all of the recited structure with the exception of providing a plurality of compartments in the first layer. The patent to Barnett teaches that various numbers of passageways can be provided in a first layer of a tube and that such is intended to take the place of known tubes with single passageways there through. It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify the first layer of Martucci by providing a multiple compartments as such would provide for more flows through the tube as suggested by Barnett to make the tube more economical and such would be stronger as well due to the added walls inside.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed July 29, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. With respect to the 102 rejection, such is moot in view of the new rejection above. With respect to the combination of Martucci and Barnett, Martucci discloses that such is used as a fuel hose and shows multiple hoses provided, Barnett

Art Unit: 3754

teaches that a plurality of hoses or pipes that can be bundled together can be replaced by a single conduit provided with multiple lumens, therefore it is considered that the prior art teaches the combination of the references, where Barnett teaches that multiple conduits can be replaced by a single conduit with multiple compartments to make for a simpler conduit which is cheaper and easier to use, which would save money.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Bradley, Mann, Vogelsang, Mantovani, Rodrigue, and Ash (349) disclosing state of the art hoses.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

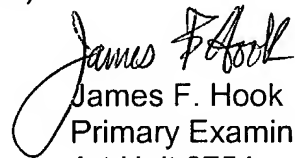
Art Unit: 3754

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James F. Hook whose telephone number is (703) 308-2913 until November 23, 2004 at which point it will change to (571) 272-4903. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Wednesday, work at home Thursdays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Mar can be reached on (703) 308-2087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


James F. Hook
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3754

JFH